

MEMORANDUM

To: Participants in the Electric Affordability Collaborative

From: Susan Hudson, Clerk of the Board

Re: Follow up on the July 17, 2006, workshop

Date: July 19, 2006

The purpose of this memo is to summarize the planned approach the Board intends to use in the Electric Affordability Collaborative required by Act 208 of the 2006 Vermont General Assembly. These plans take into consideration comments filed on July 10, 2006, as well as discussion at the July 17 workshop.

General approach to the collaborative process

The Legislature's charge to the Board is to develop draft legislation, with input of a collaborative group, consistent with specific requirements of Section 10a of Act 208. The Board must submit its draft to the Legislature by January, 2007.

Because the time frame for this process is tight, the Board intends to be guided by the following general schedule. The collaborative process will begin with a series of workshops in which participants will have the opportunity to present and discuss background information relevant to the development of an electric affordability program.¹ Following the informational workshops, in early November, the Board will invite participants to submit their proposals for draft legislation. All parties will have the opportunity to comment on the drafts in writing and at one or more further workshops. This process will be completed by early December to give the Board an opportunity to issue its proposed draft, obtain comments and have its product ready to submit to the Legislature by December 22, 2006.

_____The topics for the first two workshops were identified at the July 17 workshop. Prior to the end of the second workshop, the group must define how it will use the remainder of the

¹The workshops will be led by either Chairman Volz, when his schedule permits, or Deena Frankel, the Board's Executive Director.

information exchange period. The Department of Public Service and the Department of Children and Families have indicated that the study they must produce pursuant to Act 208 section 10b should be available to the group by mid-September. Consideration of the study will be included as one of the workshop topics as soon as the study is available. Additional topics have been suggested by AARP, Central Vermont Public Service Corporation and Washington Electric Cooperative. These topics will be considered when the subjects of the remaining workshops are determined.

The schedule of workshops

The attendees at the July 17 workshop agreed to the following schedule of workshops:

August 8, 9:30-noon PSB Hearing Room	Examples of programs in other states (AARP presentation). Data about Vermont usage and income (AARP presentation). Presentation and discussion of Docket 5308 and other previous relevant proceedings (CVPS presentation on Docket 5308).
August 25, 9:30-noon PSB Hearing Room	Vermont programs: Efficiency Vermont (EVT presentation). LIHEAP, voluntary programs including Warmth, ShareHeat, Power Partners (presentation to be coordinated by the Department of Children & Families).
September 15, 9:30-noon DPS Giga Room	Topic to be determined
September 28, 9:30-noon DPS Giga Room	Topic to be determined
October 17, 9:30-noon PSB Hearing Room	Topic to be determined

Those who are making presentations are asked to e-mail their presentations to the group at least three days in advance of the workshop at which they will give the presentations.

All meeting locations are in the Chittenden Bank Building, 112 State Street, Montpelier, VT. The state office entrance is at the back of the building. The PSB Hearing Room is located on the third floor to the left of the elevator. The DPS Giga Room is located on the third floor to the right of the elevator.

Web page for the collaborative

A web page has been established to make information generated in the collaborative process available to participants and the public. The web address is:
<http://www.state.vt.us/psb/document/ElectricInitiatives/Act208/Act208Main.htm>

Participants will be informed by e-mail when new materials are added to the website. Recent postings include: Proposal for Decision and Final Report and Order in Docket 5308; S. 62 of the 1997 Legislative Session; schedule of future workshops; this memo.

Use of e-mail in the collaborative

The Board will use e-mail as the primary means of communication in the collaborative process. Participants have already received a current e-mail list via e-mail. The list will be re-distributed to participants as changes are made and a current list will be available on the web page for this project.

Any communication in the collaborative should be e-mailed to the entire group to preserve the transparency of the process.

Additional participants

As requested at the July 17 session, if your group suggested additional participants to be invited, please provide any contact information you may have so the Board can invite those groups to join the collaborative prior to the next workshop. Thanks to those who have already provided addresses.

Questions about the process

Questions about the collaborative process should be directed to Deena Frankel, dfrankel@psb.state.vt.us.